



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

GUILTY PLEA IN WISCONSIN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY RING

MILWAUKEE – A Wisconsin man pleaded guilty last week to charges involving a widespread child pornography and child sexual assault ring based in Beaver Dam, Wis., as the result of a joint investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the FBI.

Steven M. Biskupic, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, announced that William N. Martin, 33, pleaded guilty Friday in federal court to multiple counts of inducing a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing visual depictions of such conduct, and possessing child pornography that Martin himself had produced by inducing minors to engage in sexually explicit conduct. Martin will be sentenced Aug. 4 before District Judge William C. Griesbach in Green Bay, Wis. He faces up to 50 years in prison.

Joel Kline, 42, of Freeport, Ill., was an associate of Martin's and was sentenced in federal court in September 2004 to life imprisonment, plus 30 years by U.S. District Judge William C. Griesbach. Kline has a prior state conviction for an aggravated sexual abuse charge.

Adam J. Brown, 33, another criminal associate of Martin's, pleaded guilty to traveling across a state line from California to Wisconsin with the intent to engage in a sexual act and enticing a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a visual depiction of such conduct. Brown's sentencing date is July 29. He faces up to 30 years in prison.

Kurt David Sandvig, 43, another associate of Martin's, has pleaded guilty to traveling across state lines for the purpose of engaging in a sexual act with a minor. Sandvig's sentencing date is scheduled for July 27. He faces up to 30 years and has agreed to a 30-year prison term.

Finally, Tim Dirk was charged in state court on charges relating to this federal investigation. He was charged with intent to engage in a sexual act with a person who had not attained the age of 12 years. He was sentenced to approximately 33 years in prison.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation and the Beaver Dam Police Department also assisted in the investigation, with the cooperation of law enforcement officials from Riverside, Calif., and Kansas City, Mo. The case is assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorneys William Roach and Brian E. Pawlak.

“We’ve made it an agency priority to stop these sexual predators from abusing and exploiting our children,” said Brian Falvey, resident agent-in-charge of ICE investigations in Milwaukee. “ICE is committed to protecting those who cannot protect themselves, and the victims of child sexual predators are the top of that list.”

This case falls under ICE’s nationwide initiative known as [Operation Predator](#). Operation Predator protects our children from sexual predators, including those who travel across continents to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also included under Operation Predator. Since the initiative was launched in July of 2003, there have been more than 5,600 individuals arrested nationwide, including more than 250 in Illinois.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.